
THE
Golden BULL.

Being the

Great Charter
OF THE
EMPIRE.

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The Liberties and Immunities granted to the Empire, and all the Members of it, by the Emperor *Charles IV.* in the Year 1356. Confirm'd by the General Diet, and Sworn to by every Emperor at his Election.

The Copy from which this Translation was taken has been compar'd with, and exactly Corrected by, the Three Originals, seal'd with a Gold Seal, which are kept One in *Bohemia*, Another in the *Palatinate*, and Third at *Francfort*.

LONDON: Printed, and Sold by *J. Nutt*, near
Stationers-Hall. 1705.

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LONDON: Printed, and sold by J. Watts, near
St. Martin's Hall, 1702.

THE PREFACE.

THE Golden Bull, since these late Wars, being frequently in every Body's Mouth, whenever any Differences betwixt the Emperor and German Princes occur, and yet at the same Time so little known to most of those that so frequently make Use of its Name, all Curious Persons who are Strangers to it will in all Likelihood be willing to be better inform'd as to its Contents. This Time seems to require it more than another, when the same Differences being still afoot, there is added to it the Death of one Emperor, and the Accession of another to the Imperial Crown. These are Things that may probably start many new Difficulties; for as those many Interests are never intirely united under the most settled Reigns, so much less may they be suppos'd to continue so under new Princes, especially considering the great Divisions among them before, and the New Occasions this Change of a Prince may administer. The Desire of Liberty is as
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insatiable as the Hunger of Gold, and therefore we see that all Nations which have once reduc'd their Princes to a Necessity of complying with their first Demands seldom stop there. There is no doubt but the Roman Emperors were as absolute Monarchs as any in the World, till the Empire being torn in Pieces by the Huns, Longobards, Franks, Goths, Vandals, and other Barbarous Nations, that mighty Monarchy was almost extinct, and many great Sovereignities erected out of its Ruins; that of France was the greatest, and Charlemaign, that Victorious Prince, rais'd it to an extraordinary Height. He reduc'd that Obstinate Nation of the Saxons, and all Germany, under his Obedience; next he subdu'd the Longobards, who had possess'd themselves of Italy, Deliver'd Rome from their Oppression; and having afterwards defended Pope Leo the Third against his Enemies, that Prelate in return for all his Services done to the Church in general, and to him in particular, mov'd the Nobility and People of Rome to proclaim him Emperor, and pursuant to it the Pope crown'd him in the Church of S. Peter, without any Precontract or Engagement on his Side. Thus was he by the Right of Conquest and the Additional Title of Election as Absolute as any of his Predecessors, the Roman Emperors. The Empire

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pire continu'd in the French Line about an Hundred Years as Inheritance, but the Kings of France, having introduc'd a Custom of causing the German Princes before their Death to declare their Sons Successors; hence they by degrees as the Power of France declin'd claim'd it as a Right to Elect whom they pleas'd. Having thus got the Power into their Hands, they not only held but increas'd it from Time to Time, obliging every Emperor to accept of that Dignity upon such Conditions as they thought fit to prescribe him, and whensoever they disliked his Government, they not only thought themselves not oblig'd to stand by him, but either united together among themselves, or join'd with his Enemies abroad to reduce him to what they thought Reason; by which it appears, that for Princes of the Empire to act against the Emperor is nothing new. By these Methods they brought that Dignity so low, that Charles the IVth seeing the Empire had been rent in Pieces by these Differences of many Years, and that there was scarce Hopes of seeing an end of them otherwise, call'd a General Diet at Nuremberg, and there consented to all the Hardships they would impose on him; which being thus establish'd by the General Consent, were confirm'd and ratifi'd with the greatest Solemnity, to remain for ever as standing and fundamental Laws. These were the present Golden Bull, so call'd from a Gold Seal

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Seal affix'd to it, call'd Bulla. This is the Great known Charter of the Empire, and equivalent to the English Magna Charta. It contains Thirty Articles, whereof only Twenty-three were agreed on in that Assembly; which the Emperor being seated on his Throne, with the Crown on his Head, and in his Imperial Robes, caus'd to be read and publish'd in his Presence, and were enacted by the Consent of all the Princes and States of the Empire there present. Afterwards, about the end of the Year, he held another Diet at Metz, where the other Seven Articles were annex'd to the Golden Bull, being publish'd in like manner in the Presence of the Electors, Princes, and States of the Empire, of the Cardinal Bishop of Alba, and of Charles, Eldest Son to the King of France, Duke of Normandy, and Dauphin of Viennois. This is the Piece here offer'd to the Curious, which indeed needed no Preface, could it be suppos'd that all Persons were acquainted with the Substance of it, and its Original; but those who are being the lesser Number, these few Lines may not be ungrateful to the rest.

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THE Golden BULL.

*In the Name of the Holy and Undivided Tri-
nity. Amen.*

Charles, by the Grace of God Emperor of the Romans,
always August, and King of Bohemia, *ad perpetuam
rei memoriam.* Every Kingdom divided in it self shall
be destroy'd; and because its Princes have made them-
selves Companions of Thieves, God has spread among them the
Spirit of Folly, and of Giddiness, that they may walk, as it were,
grovelling at Noon-Day, as if they were in the midst of Darkness,
he has remov'd their Candlesticks from the Place where they were,
to the end they may be Blind, and Leaders of the Blind. And in
fine, those that walk in the Dark stumble, and it is in Division
that the Blind of Understanding commit Wickedness. Speak
Pride, how could you have reign'd in Lucifer, had not you call'd
in Dissention to your Assistance? Speak envious Satan, how
could you have drove Adam out of Paradise, unless you had put
him from the Obedience he ow'd to his Creator? Speak Wrath,
how could you have ruin'd the Roman Commonwealth, unless you
had made Use of Division to stir up Pompey and Caesar to raise
an Intestine War against one another? Speak Luxury, how could
you have ruin'd the Trojans, unless you had parted Helen from her
Husband? And you, Envy, how have you strove by Division often

to destroy the Christian Empire, which God has founded on the Three Theological Virtues, Faith, Hope and Charity, as it were on the Holy and Undivided Trinity; by spreading the old Venom of Dissention among the Seven Electors, who are the Pillars and Principal Members of the Holy Empire, and by whose Brightness the Holy Empire is to be enlightned, as it were, by Seven Flambeaux; whose Light is strengthen'd by the Seven Gifts of the Holy Ghost. Therefore being oblig'd, as well on account of the Duty the Imperial Dignity we are invested with lays upon us, as to maintain our Electoral Right in Quality of King of the *Romans*, to obviate the dangerous Consequences which Division and Dissention might hereafter produce among the Electors, of whose number we are; we after mature Deliberation in our Court and Solemn Assembly of *Nuremberg*, in the Presence of all the Princes Electors, both Spiritual and Temporal, and of the other Princes, Earls, Barons, Lords, Gentlemen, and Cities, being seated on the Imperial Throne, clad in the Imperial Robes, with the Regal Ornaments in our Hand, and the Crown on our Head, by the Fulness of the Imperial Power, have by this Firm and Irrevocable Edict made and publish'd the following Laws, to promote Union among the Electors, to establish an Unanimous Form of Election, and to exclude by all Means that Detestable Division, and the Extraordinary Dangers that attend it. Given in the Year of our Lord 1356, the Ninth Indiction, on the 10th of *January*, the Tenth of our Reign, and the Second of our Empire.

C H A P. I.

How and by whom the Electors are to be conducted to the Place where the King of the Romans is to be Elected.

WE do declare and ordain by this present Imperial Edict, which shall stand good for ever, of our Certain Knowledge, Full Power, and Imperial Authority, that as often as for the time to come there shall happen to be Occasion, or a Ne-

cessity to Elect a King of the *Romans*, and the Electors according to the Ancient and Laudable Custom of the Empire shall be oblig'd to Travel on Account of such Election, every Prince Elector shall be oblig'd, if requir'd, to conduct and guard, safe, and without fraud, all his Co-electors, or their Deputies, through his Countries, Lands and Towns; and further, if he can, towards the Place where the Elections is to be made, as well going thither as returning, under Pain of Perjury, and of forfeiting (but only for that Time) his Vote and Suffrage he ought to have at that Election; declaring that he or they who shall be found guilty of any Rebellion in this Particular, shall actually incur the said Penalties without any further Declaration besides this Present.

2. We do order and require all other Princes who hold Fiefs of the Sacred *Roman* Empire, under what Title soever, as also all Earls, Barons, Soldiers and Vassals, as well Noble as Ignoble, Burghers, and Corporations of Boroughs, and of Towns, and of all other Places belonging to the Sacred Empire, that when it shall be in Agitation to proceed to the Election of a King of the *Romans* to be Emperor, they safely, and without fraud, as has been said, conduct and guard through their Territories, and elsewhere, the furthest they can, every Prince Elector, or the Deputies he shall send to the Election; for whom, as well as for himself, he shall have demanded of any of them such safe Conduct; and in Case any one shall presume to act contrary to our present Ordinance, he shall immediately incur the following Penalties, *viz.* in Case of such Infringment by the Princes, Earls, Barons, Gentlemen, Soldiers and Vassals, the Penalty of Perjury, and Forfeiture of all the Fiefs they hold of the Sacred *Roman* Empire, and of all others whatsoever, as also of all their Possessions of what Nature soever they are; and as for Corporations, and Burghers infringing as above, they shall be reputed perjurd, and shall at the same time forfeit all the Rights, Liberties, Priviledges and Grants they have obtain'd of the Sacred Empire, and shall incur the Imperial Ban and Proscription in their Goods and Persons; and therefore in such Case we from this time, as we should then, do deprive them of all Rights whatsoever. We also give Leave to all and every Person to fall upon the Outlaws, and to attack, offend, and insult them of their Private Authority, without being answerable for it, or asking any Leave so to do of the Magistrates, or having Cause to fear any Punishment from the

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Empire, or any other whatsoever; forasmuch as the said Out-laws stand Convicted of a Crime, and of Felony against the Commonwealth, the State, and the Dignity of the Sacred Empire, and even against their Honour and Safety, having presumptuously, and like disobedient Rebels and Traitors, contemn'd a Thing of such Importance to the Publick Good.

3. We also order and require the Burghers of all Towns and Corporations to sell, or cause to be sold to every Elector, or their Deputies for the Election, both at their going thither and returning, all Provisions and other Things they shall stand in Need of for themselves, and for their Retinue, at reasonable Rates, and without Fraud; all this under the same Penalties abovemention'd, in regard to the Burghers and Corporations, which we declare them to incur *ipso facto*.

4. And if any Prince, Earl, Baron, Soldier, Vassal, Nobleman or Ignoble, or any Burgher, or Corporation of a Town, should be so presumptuous as to obstruct, or to lay any Design against the Electors, or their Deputies, in their Way to the Election of a King of the Romans, or in their Return, and should attack, offend, or molest them in their Persons, or in those of their Servants and Retinue, or even in their Equipage, whether they had ask'd the usual safe Conduct, or had not thought fit to ask it, we declare that he who does so, and all his Adherents, have actually incur'd the aforesaid Penalties, according to the Quality of the Persons, as above set down.

5. And tho' a Prince Elector had any Enmity, Difference, or Controversie against any of his Brother Electors, yet that Quarrel is not to hinder his giving, if requir'd, the said Conduct and Guard to the other, or his Deputies for the said Election, upon Pain of Perjury, and of forfeiting his Vote at the Election only for that Time, as has been said above.

6. As also if the other Princes, Earls, Barons, Soldiers, Vassals, Nobles or Ignobles, Burghers, or Corporations of Towns, bore any Grudge to any Elector, or several of them, or if there were any Contest or War between them, yet they should not forbear, without any Fraud or Opposition, to conduct and to guard the Prince Elector, or Princes Electors, or their Deputies,

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Deputies, either going to the Place where the Election is to be made, or returning, if they will avoid the Penalties threatned in this Edict, which they will actually incur at the same Time they shall act otherwise.

7. And for the greater Assurance and Validity of all Things abovemention'd, it is our Will and Pleasure that all and every the Princes Electors, and other Princes, Earls, Nobles, Towns and Corporations, do promise under their Hands, and upon Oath, all the said Things, and oblige themselves truly, and without fraud, to perform and accomplish them; and that whosoever shall refuse to Sign such Letters, shall incur *ipso facto* the Penalties ordain'd to be put in Execution against the Refusers, according to the Quality of the Persons.

8. And in Case any Prince, Elector, or other Prince holding of the Empire, of what Quality or Condition soever he be, Earl, Baron, or Gentleman, their Heirs or Successors holding Fiefs of the Sacred Empire, should refuse to fulfil our Ordinances and Imperial Laws, above and hereafter written, if he be an Elector, then from that Time let his Co-electors exclude him their Society, and let him be depriv'd of his Voice for Election, and of his Place, and of the Dignity and Right of a Prince Elector; and let him not be invested in the Fiefes he holds of the Sacred Empire. And if it be any other Prince, or Gentleman, who, as was said, infringes these same Laws, let him in the same manner not be invested in the Fiefs he may hold of the Sacred Empire, or of whomsoever he holds them; and moreover, let him incur the same Personal Penalties above specify'd.

9. And tho' it be our Meaning, and that we ordain that all Princes, Earls, Barons, Gentlemen, Soldiers, Vassals, Towns, and Corporations, be equally oblig'd to give the said Conduct or Guard to every Elector, or his Deputies, as has been said; we have nevertheless thought fit to appoint every Elector a Guard and particular Conductors, according to the Countries and Places he shall be to pass through, as shall appear more plainly by what follows.

10. In the first place, the King of *Bohemia*, great Cup-bearer of the Empire, shall be conducted by the Archbishop of *Mentz*, by
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the Bishops of *Bamberg* and *Wirtzburg*, by the Burgraves of *Nuremberg*, by those of *Hohenloe*, of *Vertheim*, of *Bruneck*, and of *Hanau*, and by the Towns of *Nuremberg*, of *Rotenburg*, and of *Windeſheim*.

11. The Archbishop of *Cologne*, Great Chancellor of the Sacred Empire in *Italy*, shall be conducted by the Archbishop of *Mentz*, and of *Treves*, by the Count Palatine of the *Rhine*, by the Landgrave of *Hesse*, by the Earls of *Catzellenbogen*, of *Nassau*, of *Dietz*, of *Issemburg*, of *Westerburg*, of *Runkel*, of *Limburg*, and of *Falckenſtein*; and by the Towns of *Wetzlar*, of *Geylnhausen*, and of *Fridberg*.

12. The Archbishop of *Treves*, Great Chancellor of the Empire in *Gaule*, and the Kingdom of *Arles*, shall be conducted by the Archbishop of *Mentz*, by the Count Palatine of the *Rhine*, by the Earls of *Spanheim*, and of *Veldens*, by the Rugraves and Wildgraves of *Nassau*, of *Issemburg*, of *Westerburg*, of *Runkel*, of *Limburg*, of *Dietz*, of *Catzenellenbogen*, of *Eppenstein*, and of *Falckenſtein*, and by the City of *Mentz*.

13. The Count Palatine of the *Rhine*, Great Treasurer of the Empire, shall be conducted by the Archbishop of *Mentz*.

14. The Duke of *Saxony*, Great Marshal of the Sacred Empire, shall be conducted by the King of *Bohemia*, the Archbishops of *Mentz*, and of *Magdeburg*, the Bishops of *Bamberg*, and of *Wirtzburg*, the Marquiss of *Misnia*, the Landgrave of *Hesse*, the Abbots of *Fulden*, and of *Hirchſfelt*, the Burgraves of *Nuremberg*, those of *Hohenloe*, of *Wertheim*, of *Bruneck*, of *Hanau*, and of *Falckenſtein*; as also by the Towns of *Erford*, *Mulhausen*, *Nuremberg*, *Rotenburg*, and *Windeſheim*.

15. And all those already nam'd shall be in like manner oblig'd to conduct the Marquiss of *Brandenburg*, Great Chamberlain of the Empire.

16. It is further our Will, and we expreſſy Ordain, that every Prince Elector, who will have ſuch ſafe Conduct and Guard, ſhall duly ſignifie it to thoſe by whom he will be conducted and guarded, declaring to them what Way he will take, to the end that
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those who are order'd to conduct him, and who have been so requir'd, may conveniently prepare themselves, and in Time.

17. However, we declare that these present Constitutions, made on Account of the said Conduct, are to be understood in such Sort that every one of the Persons abovenam'd, or any other that has not perhaps been nam'd above, who in the aforesaid Case, shall be requir'd to furnish the said Conduct or Guard, shall be oblig'd to furnish it only within their own Lands and Countries, and even beyond them, as far as they can, and this without any fraud, under the Penalties abovemention'd.

18. Moreover, we direct and ordain, that the Archbishop of *Mentz*, who shall then be in that See, send his Letters Patents by Expresses to each of the said Princes Electors Spiritual and Temporal, his Colleagues, to acquaint them with the said Election, and that the said Letters mention the Day and Time when they may be probably be deliver'd to each of those Princes.

19. These Letters shall import, that within Three Month from the Day therein set down, all and every the Princes Electors shall appear at *Francfort* on the *Meyn* in Person, or shall send their Embassadors fully empower'd, and with a sufficient Commission, Sign'd with their own Hand, and Seal'd with their Great Seal, to proceed to the Election of a King of the *Romans* to be a future Emperor.

20. As to the Manner and Form of directing these Letters, and what Solemnity is to be therein inviolably observ'd, and what Method and Form the Princes Electors shall observe in their Deputations, Commands and Commissions to their Deputies, they shall send to the Election, that shall be found more plainly express'd at the end of this Ordinance, which Form there prescrib'd we of our Full Power and Imperial Authority do Ordain to be observ'd in all Points and Places.

21. When it shall so happen that certain News of the Death of the Emperor, or of the King of the *Romans*, shall be brought into the Diocess of *Mentz*, we do Direct and Ordain that within the Space of One Month, from the Day of the Advice receiv'd of the said Death, the Archbishop of *Mentz* do acquaint the other Princes Electors therewith by his Letters, and give the Summons

abovemention'd. But in case that Archbishop should neglect, or delay to give the said Intimation, then the other Princes Electors, of their own Accord, even without being Summon'd, and in regard to the Fidelity with which they are oblig'd to Support the Empire, shall repair within Three Months, as has been said, to the said Town of *Francfort*, to chuse a King of the *Romans* to be a future Emperor.

22. Now every one of these Princes Electors, or their Embassadors, shall not at the Time of the Election be permitted to enter the said Town of *Francfort* with above 200 Horse, among which there may be 50 arm'd Horsemen, or less if he will, but no more.

23. The Prince Elector, thus call'd, and invited to this Election, who shall not come to it, or send his Embassadors with his Letters Patents under his Great Seal, containing a full, free, and entire Power to Elect a King of the *Romans*; or who being come, or having sent his Embassadors in his stead, if afterwards the said Prince, or his said Embassadors, shall withdraw from the Place of Election before the King of the *Romans*, design'd future Emperor, be chosen, and without solemnly substituting and leaving a Lawful Representative to act as above, he shall for that Time be depriv'd of his Vote at the Election, and of the Right he had to it, and which he has thus abandon'd.

24. We also direct and require the Burghers of *Francfort*, that in Virtue of the Oath it is our Will they shall take to this purpose on the Holy Evangelists, they with all possible Care, Fidelity and Vigilancy, do protect and defend all the Princes Electors in General, and each of them in Particular, together with their People, and each of the 200 Horse they shall bring into the said City, against any Force, or Insult, in Case any Controversie or Quarrel should happen among them, and this towards and against all; for failure whereof they shall incur the Penalty of Perjury, with the Loss of all their Rights, Liberties, Grants and Concessions, which they do or may hold of the Sacred Empire, and shall immediately, both as to their Persons and Goods, be put into the Imperial Ban. And from that Time forward it shall be lawful for every Man of his own Authority, without being oblig'd to have Recourse to any Magistrate, and without being liable to any

Punishment for the same, to attack those Burghers, whom in such Case we from this time, as if actually done then, do deprive of all Benefit of the Law, as Traitors and Rebels to the Empire, and they who shall so attack them on that account shall not have Cause to apprehend or fear any Punishment from the Sacred Empire, or from any other.

25. Moreover, the said Burghers of the Town of *Frankfort* shall not bring in, or suffer any Stranger of any Quality or Condition whatsoever to come into their Town during all the Time of the Election; excepting only the Princes Electors, their Deputies, or Representatives, each of whom may carry in 200 Horse, as has been said.

26. But, if after the coming in of the Electors themselves any Stranger be found in the Town, or in their Presence, the said Burghers in Pursuance of the Oath they shall have taken to that Effect on the Holy Evangelists, by virtue of this present Ordinance, as has been specify'd above, shall be oblig'd to make him depart immediately, without delay, under the same Penalties above pronounc'd against them.

C H A P. II.

Of the Election of the King of the Romans.

1. **W**HEN all the Electors, or their Plenipotentiaries, have made their Entry into the City of *Frankfort*, the next Day early in the Morning they shall repair to the Church of *St. Bartholomew* the Apostle, and shall there cause the Mass of the Holy Ghost to be Sung, and shall be all there present till the end, to the intent that the same Holy Ghost enlightning their Hearts, and infusing into them the Brightness of his Virtue, they may be Strengthened by his Assistance to Elect for a King of the Romans and future Emperor a Good and Just Man, and one that may be for the Safety of the Christian People.

2. Presently after the Mass shall be Electors, or their Plenipotentiaries shall draw near to the Altar, where the Mass has been

before said, and there the Spiritual Princes Electors having the Gospel of S. John, In the beginning was the Word, &c. laid open before them, shall reverently lay their Hands on their Breasts, and the Temporal Electors shall really touch the said Gospel with their Hands, being all there present with their Families, not arm'd, and then the Archbishop of Mentz shall Present to them the Form of the Oath; and he with them, and they, or the Plenipotentiaries of those that are absent, with him shall take the Oath as follows;

3. I N. Archbishop of Mentz, Great Chancellor of the Sacred Empire in Germany, and Prince Elector, do swear on these Holy Evangelists laid here before me, by the Faith that binds me to God, and to the Sacred Roman Empire, that by the Help of God, to the best of my Knowledge and Judgment, I will chuse a Temporal Head for the Christian People, that is, a King of the Romans, and future Emperor, who shall be worthy to be so, as far as by my Knowledge and Judgment I can perceive; upon the same Faith I will give my Vote and Suffrage at the said Election, without any Compact or Hope of Interests, Reward or Promise, or such like thing by whatever Name it may be call'd. So help me God, and all the Saints.

4. After taking the Oath in the aforesaid Manner and Form, the Electors, or the Embassadors of those absent, shall proceed to the Election, and from that Time they shall not go out of the City of Francfort till they have by Plurality of Votes elected and given to the World, or to the Christian People, a Temporal Head, that is, a King of the Romans, and future Emperor,

5. But if they should delay doing of it Thirty Days following, reckoning from the Day they took the Oath, then when the Thirty Days are expir'd they shall have no other Sustenance but Bread and Water, and they shall not depart or go out of the said City till they have all, or most of them, chosen a Leader or Temporal Head of the Faithful, as has been said.

6. Now after the Election, on the greater Number of them, have so chosen him in the same Place, that Election shall hold and be reputed as if it had been made by them all unanimously, without any Contradiction.

7. And if any of the said Electors, or of the Embassadors, should have delay'd coming to Francfort some short Time, and yet should come before the Election was ended, it is our Will that he be admitted to the Election, and it shall then stand at the Time of his coming.

8. And

8. And forasmuch as by an ancient and laudable Custom all that is hereunder written has been unchangeably observ'd till this time, it is therefore our Will, and we do ordain of our full Power and Imperial Authority, that for the future he that shall be chosen in the aforesaid Manner King of the *Romans*, immediately after his Election, and before he be capable of meddling in the Administration of the other Affairs of the Empire, do by his Letters under his Seal, without any delay, confirm and ratifie to all and every the Princes Electors, Spiritual and Temporal; as also to the Principal Members of the Empire, all their Priviledges, Grants, Rights, Liberties, Immunities, Concessions, Ancient Customs and Dignities, and all they have obtain'd and possess'd of the Empire, till the Day of his Election, and that after he has been crown'd with the Imperial Crown, he again confirm all the aforesaid Things.

9. This Confirmation shall be granted by the Prince Elected to each of the Princes Electors in Particular; first under the Title of King, and then renew'd under the Title of Emperor; and the said Prince so Elected shall be oblig'd to maintain therein the said Princes in general, and each of them in particular, without any Fraud, and of his own good Inclination, far from giving them therein any Trouble or Molestation.

10. In fine, it is our Will, and we do ordain, that in case Three Electors present, or the Embassadors of the absent, should chuse a Fourth of their own number, viz. a Prince Elector present or absent King of the *Romans*, the Vote of the Person chosen, if he is present, or the Vote of his Embassadors, if absent, shall have its force, and increase the Number of the Electors equally with the other Princes Electors.

C H A P. III.

*Of the Seats of the Archbishops of Treves, of
Cologne, and of Mentz.**In the Name of the Holy and Undivided Trinity, and to our
greater Felicity. Amen.*

Charles the IVth, by the Grace of God Emperor of the Romans,
always August, and King of Bohemia, *ad perpetuam rei me-
moriā.*

1. The Unity and Concord of the Venerable and Illustrious Princes Electors is the Ornament and the Glory of the Sacred Roman Empire, the Honour of the Imperial Majesty, and the Benefit of the other States of this Commonwealth, whose Sacred Structure these Princes, as its cheifest Pillars, support by their Piety, equal in all respects to their Prudence. It is they also who strengthen the Arm of the Imperial Power; and we may say, that the closer the Knot of their Friendship is knit, the more plentifully the Christian People enjoys all the Advantages of Peace and Tranquillity.

2. Therefore to prevent for the future all Controversies and Jealousies that might arise betwixt the Venerable Archbishops of *Mentz*, of *Cologne*, and of *Treves*, Princes Electors of the Sacred Empire, on account of Precedence, or of the Place they are to have at their sitting in the Royal or Imperial Assemblies; and to so order it that they may preserve among themselves a settled Peace of Heart, and of Mind, and may labour unanimously, and empoly all their Care in the Business and Advantage of the Sacred Empire for the Comfort of Christian People, We have by the Advice of all the Electors, both Spiritual and Temporal, decreed and ordain'd, and do of our full Power and Imperial Authority by this our present, perpetual, and irrevocable Edict, decree and ordain, that the said Venerable Archbishops shall take their Seats in this manner, *viz.* he of *Treves* directly opposite before the Emperor's Face, he of *Mentz* either within his own Diocess, or without his Province, throughout the whole Extent of the

Chancellorship of *Germany* (except only in the Province of *Cologne*) on the Emperor's Right Hand, as the Archbishop of *Cologne* shall have it within his own Province, and without his Province throughout all *Italy*, and in *France* on the Emperor's Right Hand; and this in all Publick Imperial Acts, as in Judicatures, Collations, and Investitures of Fiefs, Counsels, and in all other Assemblies, that shall concern or have relation to the Honour and Benefit of the *Roman Empire*. It being our Will that this Order of sitting be observ'd by the said Archbishops of *Cologne*, of *Treves*, and of *Mentz*, and their Successors for ever, and that no Change be ever made in it, or any Contest rais'd about it.

C H A P. IV.

Of the Princes Electors in general.

1. **W**E also ordain that whensoever the Emperor or the King of the *Romans* shall sit in the Imperial Assemblies, either in Council, at Table, or on any other Occasion, with the Princes Electors, the King of *Bohemia*, as a Crown'd Head, and Anointed Prince, shall take the first Place immediately next to the Archbishop of *Mentz*, or him of *Cologne*; viz. after him, of those Two, who at that time, according to the several Places and Provinces, shall sit on the Right Hand of the Emperor, or of the King of the *Romans*, as due to him by Priviledge; and that the Count *Palatine* have the second Place after him on the same Right Side; that on the Left Side the Duke of *Saxony* have the first Place next the Archbishop, who shall sit on the Emperor's Left Hand; and that the Marquiss of *Brandenburg* seat himself next the Duke of *Saxony*.

2. Every time, and as often as the Sacred Empire shall happen to be vacant, the Archbishop of *Mentz* shall have the Power he has had of old to invite the other Princes his Brethren to come to the Election.

3. All whom, or those of them who have been able or willing to be present at the Election being come together in order to proceed to it, the Elector of *Mentz*, and no other, shall have the Right of collecting singly the Votes of his Co-electors in the fol-

4. He shall first take the Vote of the Elector of *Treves*, to whom we declare the first Voice belongs, as we have found it has always belong'd to this present time; secondly of the Archbishop of *Cologne*, to whom belongs the Honour and the Dignity of putting the Crown first on the King of the *Roman's* Head; thirdly of the King of *Bohemia*, who has the first place among the Temporal Electors on Account of the Excellency, Right and Merit, of his Royal Dignity; in the fourth place of the Count *Palatine* of the *Rhine*; in the fifth place of the Duke of *Saxony*; and in the sixth place of the Marquiss of *Brandenburg*. The Archbishop of *Mentz* having thus, and in the aforesaid Order, collected the Votes of them all, shall then declare and make known to his Brother Princes his own Thoughts, and for whom he gives his Voice, if they require it.

5. We do also ordain that at the Ceremony of Imperial Entertainments the Marquiss of *Brandenburg* shall give the Emperor or the King of the *Romans* Water to wash his Hands; the King of *Bohemia* shall give him the first Cup of Drink; which Service however he shall not be oblig'd to perform with the Royal Crown on his Head, according to the Priviledges of his Kingdom, unless he so please of his own free Will; the Count *Palatine* of the *Rhine* shall be oblig'd to bring the Meat, the Duke of *Saxony* shall execute his Charge of Great Marshal, as he has us'd to do in all Ancient Times.

C H A P. V.

Of the Right of the Count Palatine of the Rhine, and of the Elector of Saxony.

1. **B**Esides, as often as the Sacred Empire shall happen to be vacant, as has been said, the Illustrious Count *Palatine* of the *Rhine*, Great Treasurer of the Sacred *Roman* Empire, shall be Vicar of the Empire in those Parts about the *Rhine*, and of *Suabia*, and the Jurisdiction of *Franconia*, by reason of his Principality, or of the Priviledge of Count *Palatine*, with Power to administer Justice to fill Church Benefices, to receive the Revenue of the Em-

pire, to invest in Fiefs, and to receive Fealty and Homage for and in the Name of the Sacred Empire; all which Things shall nevertheless be repeated in due time by the King of the *Romans* next chosen, to whom Fealty and Homage shall be done anew; still excepting the Fiefs of Princes, and those which are generally given with the Standard, the Investiture whereof, and the Collation, we especially reserve only to the Emperor, or to the King of the *Romans*. However, the Count *Palatine* must understand that he is absolutely forbid to Alienate or to Mortgage any thing belonging to the Empire during the time of his Administration or Vicarship.

2. And it is our Will that the Illustrious Duke of *Saxony*, Great Marshal of the Sacred Empire, enjoy the same Right of Administration in those Places where the *Saxon* Law is observ'd, in the same Manner, and under the same Conditions, as above specify'd.

3. And tho' by a very Ancient Custom it has been brought into use that the Emperor or the King of the *Romans* are oblig'd in Suits brought against them to answer before the Count *Palatine* of the *Rhine*, Great Treasurer, Prince Elector of the Sacred Empire, yet the said Count *Palatine* shall not however have Power to exercise that Power, save only in the Imperial Court, where the Emperor, or the King of the *Romans*, shall be present in Person, and not elsewhere.

CHAP. VI.

Of the Princes Electors in regard of other Princes.

WE do ordain that in all Imperial Ceremonies and Assemblies which shall happen from this time forward, and for the time to come, the Princes Electors, Spiritual and Temporal, shall keep their Places on the Right and Left unchangeably in the Manner and Order here prescrib'd, and that no other Prince, of what Rank, Degree, Dignity or Quality soever he be, may be preferr'd before them, or any of them, in any Actions whatsoever, which regard the Imperial Assemblies, whether in walking, sitting, or standing; with this positive Condition, that the King of *Bohemia* shall in all the aforesaid Actions and Celebrations of Impe-

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rial Assemblies ever take Place of any other King, whatsoever special Dignity or Prerogative he may have, and for what Cause or Reason soever he may come and be present there.

C H A P. VII.

Of the Succession of Princes Electors.

In the Name of the Holy and Undivided Trinity, and to our greater Felicity. Amen.

Charles the IVth, by the Grace of God Emperour of the Romans, always August, and King of Bohemia, *ad perpetuam rei memoriam.*

I. Among the innumerable Cares which daily attend us, in order, with the Help of our Lord, to put the Empire, where we preside, into a happy Condition, it has always been our cheifest Endeavour to preserve and maintain a whole some Union, and perfect Peace and Charity among the Princes Electors of the Sacred Empire, being assur'd that their Advice is by so much the more beneficial to the Christian World, by how much they are remov'd from all Misunderstandings, that Charity reigns more perfectly among them, that all Doubts are banish'd, and that every Man's Right is more plainly specify'd and express'd. Assuredly it is generally manifest, and notorious to all the World, that the Illustrious, the King of Bohemia, the Count Palatine of the Rhine, the Duke of Saxony, and the Marquis of Brandenburg, the first in Virtue of his Kingdom, and the others in Virtue of their Principalities, have a Right, Vote and Seat at the Election of the King of the Romans, and future Emperors, together with the Spiritual Princes, their Co electors, with whom they are all reputed, as effectually they are, true and lawful Princes Electors of the Sacred Empire.

II. Nevertheless, to the end that for the Time to come it may not be in the Power of any to raise an Occasion of Scandal or Division betwixt the Children of these Temporal Princes Electors about the aforesaid Right, Vote, and Power of Electing, and by that means the Publick Good run any hazard of being retarded or

disturb'd by dangerous Delays ; we being desirous with the help of God to prevent such Dangers as may ensue.

3. Do by this perpetual Law enact and ordain by our Imperial Power and Authority, that in Case the said Temporal Princes Electors, or any one of them, happens to decease, the Right, Vote, and Power of Electing, shall freely, and without Impeachment from any Person whatsoever, devolve on his eldest Son, lawfully Begotten, being a Lay-man ; and in Case the eldest Son shall not be living, to the eldest Son of the eldest Son, being in like manner a Lay-man.

4. And if the said eldest Son should happen to die without leaving any Lay-Issue, lawfully Begotten, the Right, Vote and Power of Electing shall by Virtue of this present Edict descend to his younger Brother, descending in the direct lawful Line from the Father, and next to his eldest Son.

5. This Succession of the eldest, and of the Heirs of those Princes, shall be ever observ'd in what regards the aforesaid Right, Vote, and Power.

6. Yet in such Manner, and upon Condition, that if the Prince Elector, or his eldest Son, or the next Lay-Son should happen to die, and leave Lay-heirs Males, lawfully Begotten, under Age, the elder Brother of the deceased shall be Tutor and Protector of those under Age, till such Time as the eldest of them is come to the lawful Age ; which Age in a Prince Elector it is our Will, and we do ordain to be always at Eighteen Years compleat, and when the Elector under Age shall come to those Years, his Tutor or Protector shall be oblig'd to put into his Hands immediately and entirely the Right, Vote and Power, together with the Office of an Elector, and in general all that appertains to it.

7. And if any of those Principalities should happen to be vacant, or fall to the Empire, then the Emperor, or the King of the *Romans*, may dispose of it, as of a thing lawfully devolv'd to him, and to the Sacred Empire.

8. This nevertheless, without Prejudice to the Rights, Priviledges and Customs of our Kindgom of *Bohemia*, as to what relates to chusing a new King in Case of a Vacancy, by Virtue whereof the Inhabitants of *Bohemia* have Power to elect a King of *Bohemia* according to the Custom observ'd in all Times, and the Tenour of the said Priviledges obtain'd from the Emperors or Kings, our Predecessors, which Priviledges we do not intend any Way to impeach by the present Imperial Sanction ; on the contrary, we ex-

pressly ordain that our said Kingdom be maintain'd in them, and that its Priviledges be preserv'd for ever, according to their Form and Tenour.

C H A P. VIII.

Of the Immunity of the King of Bohemia, and of the Inhabitants of the said Kingdom.

1. **W**Hereas the Emperors and Kings, our Predecessors, have granted to the Illustrious Kings of *Bohemia*, our Forefathers and Predecessors, as also to the Kingdom and Crown of *Bohemia*, the Priviledge which of their Bounty has been consented to, and which has taken Place in that Kingdom, without any Interruption Time out of Mind, by a laudable Custom, uncontroulably observ'd during all the said Time, and grown into Prescription by constant Use, without any Contradiction or Interruption, which is, that no Prince, Baron, Nobleman, Soldier, Vassal, Burgher, Inhabitant, Peasant, or other Person of that Kingdom, and its Dependances of any Estate, Dignity, Preheminence or Condition whatsoever he be, may on any Account or Pretence, or by any Person whatsoever, be summon'd and cited out of the Kingdom, and before any Tribunal but that of the King of *Bohemia*, and of the Judges of his Royal Court, we being desirous to renew and confirm the said Grant, Custom and Priviledge, do of our Authority, and full Imperial Power, by this perpetual, and for ever irrevocable Decree, ordain, that if notwithstanding the said Priviledge, Custom and Grant, any Prince, Baron, Nobleman, Vassal, Burgher or Peasant, or any other Person above-mention'd, should be summon'd or cited before any Court whatsoever, without the Kingdom, for any Cause whatsoever, whether Civil, Criminal, or Mixt, the said Person shall in no manner be oblig'd to appear, or give in an Answer there at any Time, either in Person, or by Attorney; and if the Judge Alien, and who does not reside in the Kingdom, whatsoever Authority he is invest-ed with, does not forbear proceeding against the Parties not appearing, but proceeds to Judgment, and pronounces one or more

more Sentences in the aforesaid Matters, howsoever it be, we by our Authority and full Imperial Power do declare all the said Citations, Summons, Proceedings, Sentences and Executions, generally made in Consequence thereof, to be void, and of no effect; and that nothing can be done or attempted in Derogation of this Priviledge.

2. Whereupon we of the same full Power and Authority, by this Imperial, Perpetual and Irrevocable Edict, do expressly add and ordain, that as it has been always, and Time out of Mind, observ'd in the said Kingdom of *Bohemia*, that it was not Lawful for any Prince, Baron, Nobleman, Soldier, Vassal, Citizen, Burgher, Peasant, or any Inhabitant of the aforesaid Kingdom of *Bohemia*, of whatever State, Preheminance, Dignity or Condition he be, to Appeal to any other Court, on any Proceedings, Suits, Judgment, Sentences, or Decisions of the King of *Bohemia*, or his Judges, or from the Execution of the said Sentences or Judgments given against any of them by the King, or the Courts of the King or Kingdom, and the other Judges aforesaid, that if it shall happen that any in Contempt of what is here said shall offer any such Appeals, they shall be declar'd void, and the Parties appealing shall immediately, and *ipso facto*, incur the Penalty of their Cause.

CH A P. IX.

Of the Mines of Gold, Silver, and other Metals.

1. **W**E, by this Present, Perpetual and Irrevocable Decree, do ordain and declare of our own Knowledge, that our Successors, the Kings of *Bohemia*, as also all and every the Princes Electors, Spiritual and Temporal, for the Time being, and to come, may justly and lawfully have and possess all the Mines and Veins of Gold, Silver, Tin, Copper, Iron, Lead, and all Sorts of other Metals, as also the Salt-Pits already discover'd, or that shall be in Time discover'd in our said Kingdom, and in the Lands and Countries subject to the said Kingdom, as in like manner the said Princes in their Principalities, Lands, Dominions, and Dependencies

dencies, with all Rights, not excepting any, as they may, or have us'd to possess them. They may also harbour *jews*, and for the future receive the Duties and Toles heretofore settled, in the same manner as it has been hitherto lawfully practis'd by our Predecessors, the Kings of *Bohemia*, of Blessed Memory, and by the Princes Electors, and their Predecessors, according to the Ancient, Laudable, and Approv'd Custom, and the Practice Time out of Mind.

CHAP. X.

Of the Coin.

1. **W**E do further ordain, that the King of *Bohemia*, who shall succeed after us in that Kingdom, may, during the Time of his Reign, Coin Gold and Silver Money in any Parts of his Kingdom, or the Dependencies thereof, he shall think fit to direct, in the same Manner and Form hitherto observ'd in that Kingdom, as it has been lawful in all Ages to our Predecessors, the Kings of *Bohemia*, to do, according to the Ancient Possession they enjoy of that Right. It is also our Will, and by this present Imperial Constitution, and Perpetual Grant, we do ordain, that the Kings of *Bohemia* may Acquire and Purchase of other Princes, Lords, Earls, and of all other Persons, Castles, Lands, and Hereditaments, of whatsoever Nature they may be, or receive then by Gift or Mortgage, on Condition they shall be oblig'd to leave them as they found them; that is, Fiefs as Fiefs, Freeholds as Freeholds, &c. yet so that the Kings of *Bohemia* shall be oblig'd to pay the usual and customary Acknowledgments due to the Empire for such Estates as they shall have so Acquir'd or Receiv'd, and which they shall have thought fit to annex to the Crown of *Bohemia*.

2. And this present Constitution and Grant we in Virtue of our present Imperial Law extend to all the Princes Electors, as well Spiritual as Temporal, and to their Successors and Lawful Heirs, on the same Conditions here abovemention'd.

C H A P. XI.

Of the Courts of Princes Electors.

1. **W**E do also ordain that the Earls, Barons, Noblemen, Feoffees, Vassals, Officers, Soldiers, Citizens, Burgers, and all other Persons, of what Estate, Dignity or Condition soever they be, being Subjects of the Churches of *Cologn*, *Mentz* and *Treves*, shall not, and may not for the future, as they could not, nor ought not, for the Time past, be summon'd, drawn, or remov'd without the Territories, or the Bounds and Limits of the Jurisdiction of the said Churches and their Dependencies, at the Suit of any Plaintiff whatsoever, or oblig'd to appear before any other Courts and Judges, but before the ordinary Judges of the Archbishop of *Mentz*, *Treves* and *Cologn*, as we find it has been observ'd in all Ages.

2. And if it should happen, that notwithstanding our present Constitution any Subject of the Churches of *Treves*, *Mentz* and *Cologn*, should be Summon'd or Cited on any Cause whatsoever, Civil, Criminal or Mixt, or on any other Account, to appear before another Judge without the Territories, Bounds and Limits of the said Churches, or of any of them, he who is so Cited shall not be any Way oblig'd to Appear, or put in his Answer; we declaring the Summons, the Proceedings, Sentences and Judgments given, or that may be given, against the Parties not appearing or answering, by such Judges who shall be without the Liberties of the said Churches, and whatever can ensue by Execution, or other Attempts, to be void, and of no effect.

3. To which we expressly add, that the Earls, Barons, Feoffees, Noblemen, Vassals, Officers, Soldiers, Citizens, Peasants, and all other the Subjects, of the said Churches, of what Estate, Dignity or Condition soever they be, may not Appeal from the Proceedings, Sentences, Judgments, or Decrees of the said Archbishops, and their Churches, or of their Secular Officers, or Judges, nor from the Executions made, or to be made against them, within the Jurisdiction of the Archbishop, or of the said Officers, to any other Court whatsoever, as long as Justice shall not be refus'd the Plaintiffs in the Courts of the said Arch-

Archbishops and their Officers ; and we forbid all other Judges to admit of such Appeals, and do declare them void, and of no effect.

4. But in Case of Denial of Justice, we do give leave to all abovenam'd, to whom Justice shall be so deny'd, to Appeal, but not indifferently, to any other inferior or subdelegate Judge, but immediately to the Imperial Court, and to the Judge there presiding at that Time, making void and annulling all the Proceedings that may have been carry'd on elsewhere contrary to this Constitution.

5. The which, by Virtue of our present Imperial Law, we do also extend to the Illustrious the Count Palatine of the Rhine, the Duke of Saxony, and Marquiss of Brandenburg, Temporal or Lay-Princes Electors, and to their Heirs, Successors, and Subjects, in the same Manner and Form as above.

C H A P. XII.

Of the Assembly of the Princes Electors.

In the Name of the Holy and Undivided Trinity, and to our greater Felicity. Amen.

Charles the IVth, by the Grace of God Emperor of the Romans, always August, and King of *Bohemia*, *ad perpetuam rei memoriam.*

1. Amidst the sundry Cares which continually employ our Mind for the Publick Good, our Imperial Highness has consider'd that the Princes Electors of the Sacred Empire, who are its solid Basis and immoveable Pillars, not being able conveniently to confer together, by reason of their too great distance from one another, it is requisite that for the Good and Safety of the said Empire they meet together oftner than has been us'd, to the end that as they are inform'd of the Abuses and Disorders which prevail in the Provinces to them known, they may report the same, and confer together, and consider of the Means to redress them by their wholesome Counsels, and their wise Foresight.

2. There

2. Therefore in our Sovereign Court held by our Highness at *Nuremberg*, with the Venerable Spiritual Princes Electors, and the Illustrious Temporal Princes Electors, and many other Princes and Great Lords, after mature Deliberation with the said Princes Electors, and with their advice for the Common Good and Safety, we have thought fit, together with the said Princes Electors, both Spiritual and Temporal, to ordain, that for the future the said Princes Electors assemble in Person once a Year, in some one of our Imperial Cities, for the space of Four Weeks, together, after the Feast of *Easter*; and that for this present Year, at the same Time next ensuing, a Conference, Court or Assembly of that Nature shall be held by us, and the said Princes in our Imperial City of *Mentz*, and then on some Day of the fitting of the said Assembly a Place shall be by us nam'd, with their Advice where they shall assemble the following Year. And this present Constitution shall last no longer than it shall please us and them; and whilst it shall subsist, we take under our Protection, and into Custody, the Princes Electors, as well in their Way to our Court, as whilst they stay there, and when they return home.

3. And to the end that the Conferences and Dispatch of Common Affairs which concern the Publick Safety and Tranquility may not be retarded by the Entertainments usual at such like Assemblies, we do also ordain by their unanimous Consent, that during the said Assemblies it shall not be lawful for any Person whatsoever to make any general Entertainment for all the Princes, but only private Meals, which do not hinder the Dispatch of Business, and even that with Moderation.

C H A P. XIII.

Of the Resumption of Grants.

WE do further enact and declare by this our present Imperial, Perpetual and Irrevocable Edi^ct, that all the Priviledges, and all the Grants, which we, or the Emperors and Kings of the *Romans*, our Predecessors of Glorious Memory, may have pass'd of our own free Motion, or in any other Manner upon any Condition whatsoever, or which we, or our Successors, Emperors or Kings, might for the future grant to any Person, of what Estate, Dignity or Condition whatsoever, even to Towns, Burroughs and Corporations, for any Rights, Priviledges, Immunities, Customs, or other thing, shall not any Way prejudice or derogate from the Liberties, Jurisdic^tions, Rights, Honours and Lordships of the Princes Electors, Spiritual and Temporal, of the Sacred Empire, nor of any of them; notwithstanding the said Priviledges and Letters granted, as has been said, in favour of any Persons whatsoever, and of any Quality, Dignity, and Estate, or the said Corporations, should expressly import that they cannot be revok'd, unless this Cause of Non-Resumption be Especially, and Word for Word, inserted throughout the whole Body and Contents of the said Letters; the which Priviledges and Letters, as far as they prejudice, and in some things derogate from the Liberties, Jurisdic^tions, Rights, Honour and Lordships of the said Princes Electors, or any of them, we have of our certain Knowledge, full Power and Imperial Authority, revok'd and made void, do revoke and make void, and do regard and look upon as revok'd and make void by these Presents.

Of those whose Fiefs are taken away, as being unworthy of them.

AND forasmuch as in many Parts of the Empire, the Vassals, and those that hold Fiefs do abruptly and maliciously make a Verbal Resignation of the Fiefs they hold of their Lords, that they may after the said Resignation Challenge and make War upon them, and under Pretence of open Hostility, may attack, invade, seize on, and detain the said Fiefs and Lands in Prejudice of the said Lords, We therefore ordain by this Perpetual Constitution, that such and the like Resignations or Renunciations shall be look'd upon as null, if they are not made freely and really, and if the Lords are not put into Corporal and Real Possession of the said Fiefs in such Manner, that these Challengers do never by themselves, or by others, molest, and do not counsel, favour or abet any one, in molesting and disturbing their Lords in the Fiefs or Estates they shall so have resign'd. It is our Will that those who act contrary, and shall attack their Lords in their Estates, or Fiefs, whether they be or be not resign'd in any manner whatsoever, or shall molest or endamage them, or shall counsel, favour, or abet the Undertakers of such Enterprizes, do at the same Time, and by that very Fact forfeit the said Fiefs and Estates, and be declar'd infamous, and put into the Ban of the Empire, and be incapable of ever recovering the said Fiefs and Estates on any Pretence whatsoever, or of ever being invested in them anew on any account. And we declare that any Grant or Investiture bestow'd on them afterwards, contrary to the present Constitution, shall be of no Effect. Lastly, We do ordain that he or they who shall dare to presume to act falsely against his or their Lord, and shall go about with a premeditated Design to attack him, without having made the said Resignation, whether the Challenge have been made or no, he or they shall *ipso facto* incur the said Penalties by virtue of this present Decree.

CHAP. XV.

Of Conspiracies.

1. **W**E do also disallow, condemn, and of our certain Knowledge declare void all Conspiracies, Conventicles, Unlawful Assemblies, abhorr'd and forbid by the Laws within and without Towns, betwixt Town and Town, betwixt private Person and private Person, and betwixt Town and private Person, under Colour of Kindred, of Township, or any other Pretence whatsoever; as also all Confederacies and Compacts, and all Customs introduc'd on this account, which we rather look upon as Abuses; which any Towns, or Persons, of whatsoever Estate, Dignity or Condition may have made till this time, or shall presume to make for the time to come, either among themselves, or with others, without the Authority of the Lords, whose Subjects, Officers or Servants they are, or within whose Precincts they live, the said Lords not being excepted by Name; as they have been forbid, and made null by the Holy Laws of the Divine Emperors our Predecessors; always excepting the Leagues and Confederacies which are known to have been made by the Princes, Towns and others, for preserving the general Peace of the Provinces and Countries among themselves; the which being particularly reserv'd by our Declaration. We do ordain that they remain in their full Force and Vigour till we shall think fit to order otherwise.

2. We do ordain that every private Person who shall presume for the future to enter into an Association, Conspiracy, or Compact of this Nature, contrary to the Tenour of this Edict, and of our Ancient Law publish'd to this Effect, shall, besides the Penalty mention'd in the said Law, immediately incur the Pain of Infamy, and a Fine of Ten Pounds of Gold; and that every Town, which in like manner shall infringe our present Law, shall also be liable to pay a Fine of an Hundred Pounds of Gold, with the Forfeiture and Deprivation of its Imperial Priviledges; of which Pecuniary Mulcts the one half shall be to the Imperial Treasury, and the other Moiety to the Lord of the Precinct to whose Franchise such Associations have been made.

CHAP.

C H A P. XVI.

Of the Phalburghers, or Persons that have forfeited their Burghership.

1. **F**urthermore Complaint has often been made to us, that certain Burghers and Subjects of Princes, Barons, and others, seeking to shake off the Yoke of their Original Subjection, and without any Regard to it, do cause themselves to be admitted Burghers of other Towns, as they have often done of late, and that nevertheless they continue personally to reside in the Lands, Towns, Boroughs and Villages of their first Lords, who they have presum'd, and have the Boldness to forsake by this Fraud, and pretend to enjoy the Franchises of those Towns, in which they have by such Means obtain'd the Right of Burghership, and to be protected by them; which Burghers are vulgarly in the German Tongue call'd *Phalburgers*; therefore forasmuch as it is not reasonable that any one should reap the Advantages of his Fraud and Deceit, We with the Advice of the Princes Electors, Spiritual and Temporal, and of our own certain Knowledge, full Power and Imperial Authority, have ordain'd, and by this Present, Perpetual and Irrevocable Law do ordain, that the said Burghers and Subjects, who shall so abuse those under whose Subjection they are, shall not from this Day forward any way enjoy the Rights and Liberties of the Towns, of which they have, or shall thus fraudulently cause themselves to be admitted Burghers, throughout all the Lands, Places and Provinces of the Sacred Empire; unless they really remove in Person to the said Towns, there to settle their Abode, and make there a real, and not a counterfeit, fixt Residence, paying the usual Impositions, and the Charges of the Corporation; and if any have been already admitted, or shall be for the future, their Admittance shall be look'd upon as void; and the Parties admitted, of whatever Quality, Dignity or Condition, shall not on any Account, or under any colour whatsoever, enjoy the Rights and Liberties of the said Towns; and this notwithstanding any Rights or Priviledges obtain'd, or any Customs at any time whatsoever; the which.

certain Knowledge, and full Imperial Power, do by these Presents revoke, and do ordain that they be of no Force or Worth.

2, Excepting, and always saving, touching what has been said above, the Rights, the Princes, Lords, and other Persons, who have been, or shall be for the future thus forsaken, have over the Persons and Goods of their Subjects who thus forsake them; and as for those, who contrary to the Tenour of our present Law have presum'd in times past, or shall for the future, presume to receive the said Burghers and Subjects of another, if they do not absolutely send them back within a Month after the Notification made to them of these Presents, We declare that as often as they shall transgress our Present Law, they shall incur the Penalty of a Fine of an Hundred Marks of pure Gold, whereof the one Moiety shall be irremissibly apply'd to our Imperial Treasury, and the other to the Lords of those who shall have been so admitted.

CHAP. XVII.

Of Challenges.

1. **W**E further declare that those who pretending they have just Cause to Challenge any Man, have accordingly sent him a Challenge unduly to such Places where he has not his Abode, or where he does not usually Reside, may not with Honour ravage his Lands, or burn his Houses, or any other Way damage his Possessions.

2. And forasmuch as it is not just that Fraud and Deceit should be advantageous to any Man, it is our Will, and by this Present, Perpetual Constitution we do ordain, that all Challenges already given, or to be hereafter given after this manner to any Lords, or other Persons whatsoever, with whom the Challengers have had any Society, Familiarity, or Friendship, be of no Effect and that it be not any way lawful on Pretence of such Challenge to injure any one by Burning, Pillaging or Plundering, unless the Challenge have been publickly made known for the space of Three natural Days to the very Person Challeng'd, or in the Place of his

testify'd by sufficient Witnesses, We do ordain that whosoever shall presume to Challenge and Assail any one in the aforesaid manner, shall *ipso facto* be accounted Infamous, as if no Challenge had been given, and that he be punish'd as a Traitor by any Judges to the utmost Rigour of the Laws.

3. We do also forbid and condemn all manner of unjust Wars and Quarrels, as likewise Burning, Ravaging, unjust, violent, unlawful, and unusual Tolls and Impositions, as also the Extortion us'd for Safeguards and Convoys which People are made to take by Force, and this under the Penalties the Holy Laws appoint for Punishment of such Offences.

C H A P. XVIII.

Letters of Intimation.

TO the Illustrious and Magnificent Prince, Lord, &c. the Marquiss of Brandenburg, Great Chamberlain of the Sacred Empire, our Co-electors, and most Dear Friend, We do by these Presents make known to you the Election of a King of the Romans, which for just Reasons is to me made out of Hand, and do summon you according to the Duty and Custom of our Employment to the said Election, to the end that within the Space of Three following Months from such a Day, &c. you come in Person, or send your Embassadors, or Proxies, one or more in number, with sufficient Power and Instructions to the proper Place, according to the Sacred Laws made to that Purpose, to consider, treat, and agree with the other Princes, yours and our Co-electors, about the Election of a King of the Romans, who shall by the Grace of God be afterwards created Emperor, and to continue there till the Conclusion of that Election, and to proceed and act further, as is express'd in the Sacred Laws enacted to that purpose; upon failure whereof we shall finally proceed therein, together with the other Princes, yours and our Co-electors, as the Authority of the said Laws directs, notwithstanding yours or your Embassadors Absence.

C H A P. XIX.

The Form of the Commission to be given by the Prince Elector, who sends his Embassadors to the Election.

WE N. by the Grace of God, &c. of the Sacred Empire, &c. by these Presents do make known to all Men, that whereas for just Causes there is to be an Election of a King of the Romans out of Hand, and we, as oblig'd by the Honour and Dignity of the Empire, being ardently Zealous that it be not expos'd to any eminent Dangers, We therefore being fully perswaded of, and having a full Confidence in the Singular Fidelity, Ability and Prudence of our Dear and Well-beloved N. N. &c. have made, constituted and appointed, and do make, constitute and appoint, with full Power, and in the best Manner and Form, and as effectually as we can, our True and Lawful Deputies, and Special Embassadors, them, and each of them, firmly, so that the Condition of him that shall be before another be no way better, but that what has been begun by one, may be duly finish'd and compleated by the other; and this to treat fully with the other Princes our Co-electors, as well Spiritual as Temporal, to agree with them, and to conclude about the Choice of a Person duly qualify'd to be a King of the Romans, and to assist at the Conferences that shall be held about the Election of such a Person, and there to treat and deliberate for us in our Name; as also in our said Name and Stead to appoint the said Person, and to consent that he be Elected King of the Romans, and rais'd to the Sacred Empire, and to take on our Conscience any Oath that shall be requisite, convenient and usual; and even, in what relates to the aforesaid Things, or any one of them, to effectually substitute and appoint another Deputy or Deputies, and to do all and every thing that shall be necessary and profitable to be done, in what regards the Affairs aforesaid, till the Conclusion of the Conferences of this Nomination, Deliberation and Election, or the like useful and important Affairs, tho' they, or any one of them, should require a more special

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Commission, or tho' they were of greater Consequence, or more singular than those abovemention'd in all Points, as we could do our selves if we were personally present at the Negotiations of the said Conferences of Deliberation, Nomination and Election; declaring that it is our Will, and firmly promising to be ever consenting to, and to ratifie whatsoever shall be transacted, negotiated, done, or any way ordain'd touching the aforesaid Affairs, or any of them, by our said Deputies, or Embassadors, or by their Subdelegates, or by those who shall be Substituted by them, or any one of them.

C H A P. XX.

That the Electors Principalities, and the Rights to them annex'd, are inseparable.

In the Name of the Holy and Undivided Trinity, and to our greater Felicity. Amen.

Charles the IVth, by the Grace of God Emperor of the Romans, always August, and King of Bohemia, *ad perpetuam rei memoriam.*

Whereas all and every the Principalities by which the Temporal Princes Electors have a Right and Vote at the Election of a King of the Romans to be a future Emperor, are so inseparably annex'd and united to that Right, and to the Functions and Dignities thereto belonging, and on it depending, that the Right and Vote, the Office and the Dignity, and other Rights belonging to each of the said Principalities, cannot devolve to any other but to him, who is in known Possession of the Principality, with the Lands, Villages, Fiefs, Demains, and their Appurtenances. We therefore by this Perpetual and Irrevocable, Imperial Edict, do ordain, that for the future every one of the said Principalities shall be and remain so closely and inseparably annex'd and united to the Vote of Election, the Office, and all other Dignities, Rights, and Appurtenances belonging to the Electoral Dignity, that whosoever shall be peaceable Possessor of

of one of the said Principalities, shall also enjoy the free and peaceable Right of the Vote, the Office, the Dignity, and all other Appurtenances relating to it, and shall be reputed by all Persons a true and lawful Elector; and as such the rest shall be oblig'd to invite, to receive, and admit him, and no other, among the other Princes Electors at all times, and without any Contradiction at the Elections of Kings of the *Romans*, and at all other Assemblies that shall concern the Honour and the Welfare of the Sacred Empire; so that none of the aforesaid things, forasmuch as they are or ought to be inseparable, may be at any time separated or divided from the other, or be by Way of Suit or Judgment separately claim'd, or made away. It being our Will that no Hearing be given to him that shall demand the one without the other; and that if he should surreptitiously, or otherwise, obtain a Hearing, and from it should ensue any Process, Judgment, Sentence, or the like, contrary to our present Constitution, that then the whole, and all that could in any wise result from it, be actually void, and of no effect.

C H A P. XXI.

Of the Order to be observ'd by the Archbishops in Processions.

1. **F**Orasmuch as at the beginning of these our present Constitutions we have sufficiently explain'd the Order to be observ'd by the Spiritual Princes Electors, in taking their Seat at Council, at Table, and elsewhere, when the Imperial Court shall be held, or the Princes Electors shall hereafter be oblig'd to assemble with the Emperor, or the King of the *Romans*, on which account we have been inform'd there were several Contests in Times past, we have also judg'd it expedient to prescribe the Order to be by them observ'd at publick Processions.

2. We therefore by this Present, Imperial and Perpetual Edict do ordain, that whensoever at those Publick Assemblies of the Emperor, or King of the Romans, with the said Princes, the Emperor or the King of the Romans shall go publickly abroad in State, and shall cause the Imperial Ornaments to be carry'd before him, the Archbishop of Treves shall walk First, and single in a streight Line, and diametrically before the Emperor, so that there shall be none betwixt him and the Emperor, or the King of the Romans, but the Princes to whom it belongs to carry the Imperial or Regal Ornaments.

3. But when the Emperor or the King shall go abroad without causing the said Ornaments to be carry'd, then the same Archbishop shall walk before the Emperor or the King in the aforesaid Manner, so that no Person whatsoever shall be betwixt them, the Two other Archbishops Electors in the said Processions keeping the Places before assign'd to each of them in Sitting, according to the Province they shall be in.

C H A P. XXII.

Of the Order to be observ'd by the Princes Electors in Processions; and by whom the Regalia are to be carry'd.

TO settle the Order the Princes Electors are to observe in going with the Emperor or King of the Romans, in Publick and in State, whereof mention has been made above, We do ordain, that as often as during the time of holding an Imperial Diet it shall happen that the Princes Electors go in Procession with the Emperor or King of the Romans, upon any Act or Solemnity whatsoever, and shall carry the Imperial or Regal Ornaments, the Duke of Saxony carrying the Imperial or Royal Sword, shall walk immediately next before the Emperor in the Mid-way between him and the Elector of Treves.

On the Right of the said Duke of Saxony shall be the Count Palatine of the Rhine, who shall carry the Imperial Globe, and on his Left the Marquiss of Brandenburg carrying the Scepter, all Three making an equal Front; the King of Bohemia shall follow immediately next after the Emperor, and no Person shall go between the Emperor or the said King, and him.

CHAP. XXIII.

Of the Blessings of the Archbishops in the Emperor's Presence.

1. **W**hensoever the Holy Mass shall be Solemnly Celebrated before the Emperor or the King of the Romans, and the Archbishops of Mentz, of Treves, and of Cologn, or any Two of them shall be present, the following Order, which by their Advice and Consent we have thought fit to Establish, shall be observ'd at the Confeitor, which is said at the beginning of the Mass, at the kissing of the Gospel, and of the Pax, which is given after Agnus Dei, and also at the Blessing given at the end of the Mass, and at Grace before and after Meals; viz. the First of them shall have that Honour the First Day, the Second the Second Day, and the Third the Third Day.

2. In this Case we declare, that the Order of Priority or Posteriority among the Archbishops is to be regulated by the Order and Time of their Consecration. And to the end they may oblige one another by Acts of Honour and Deference, and that their Example may oblige others to Honour one another, we desire that he who according to this Order shall have the first Place in these Affairs, do make a Civil and Charitable Tender to his Collegues, inviting them to accept of that Honour, and that he after that proceed to perform the aforesaid things, or any of them.

C H A P. XXIV.

The following Laws were publish'd at the Diet at Mentz on Christmaſs-Day, Anno 1356. by Charles the IVth, Emperor of the Romans, always Auguſt, and King of Bohemia, attended by all the Princes Electors of the Sacred Empire, in the Preſence of the Reverend Father in God, the Lord Theodorick, Biſhop of Alba, Cardinal of the Holy Roman Church, and of Charles, Eldeſt Son to the King of France, Illuſtrious Duke of Normandy, and Dauphin of Viennois.

1. **I**F any Perſon ſhould enter into any heinous Conſpiracy, or ſhould take an Oath or Promise to engage in it with any Princes Electors, and Gentlemen, or with Private Perſons, or any others whatſoever, even the meaneſt, againſt the Life of the Reverend and Illuſtrious Princes Electors of the Sacred Empire, whether Spiritual or Temporal, or any of them, let him periſh by the Sword, and all his Goods be forfeited as guilty of High-Treaſon; for they are Members of our Body, and in theſe Caſes the Laws puniſh the Will as ſeverely as the Crime it ſelf. And tho' it were but juſt that the Children of ſuch Parricides ſhould die the ſame Death, becauſe there is Cauſe to ſuſpect they may follow ſuch Ill Examples, nevertheleſs out of a ſpecial Bounty we give them their Lives. But it is our Will that they be depriv'd of their Mothers or Grandfathers Inheritance, as alſo of all Goods or Eſtates they might expect by Right of Inheritance, or by Will from their other Kindred and Friends, that ſo being always Poor and Neceſſitous, their Father's Infamy may always attend them; that they may never attain to any Honour and Dignity, not even thoſe

that are conferr'd by the Church; and that they may be reduc'd to such Extremity, that they languish in continual Want, and by that Means find their Comfort in Death, and their Punishment in Life, it is also our Will that those who shall presume to intercede for such Persons be stigmatiz'd with Perpetual Infamy.

2. As for the Daughters of such Criminals, be they never so many, we do ordain that they receive the Fourth Part of their Mother's Inheritance, whether she made any Will or not, that so they may rather have a small Subsistence as Maids, than reap the full Benefit of their Birth, or be call'd Heiresses. For indeed the Sentence ought to be the more moderate in regard to them, because we are perswaded the Weakness of their Sex will prevent their attempting any Crimes of this Nature.

3. We do also declare, that however such People may emancipate, and set free their Sons or Daughters, after the Publication of this present Law, the same shall be void, and of no effect; we do also make void, and of no force, all Portions assign'd, Deeds of Gift, and other Alienations that can be made by Fraud, and even legally after the Time they first enter'd into the first Project of their Plots and Conspiracies. If their Wives having withdrawn their Portion are in such Condition, that what they have receiv'd from their Husbands bears the Name of a Gift, which should be reserv'd for their Daughters when their own use of it shall cease, they must understand, that all those Things, which according to the Laws ought to revert to the Daughters, are to be brought into our Treasury, saving only the Fourth Part, which shall be taken for the Daughters, and not for the Sons.

4. What has been said of these Criminals, and of the Children, is in like manner to be understood of their Accomplices, Abettors, and Adherents, and of their Children. However, if any of these Accomplices, mov'd to it by the Desire of True Glory, shall discover the Conspiracy in its beginning, he shall receive a Reward and Honour from us; but as for him who shall have been concern'd in these Conspiracies, and shall not disclose them till late, yet still before any other Discovery, he shall only be reputed worthy to be absolv'd and pardon'd for his Crime.

5. We do also ordain, that if any Design against the said Princes Electors, Spiritual or Temporal, shall be discover'd,
the

the Process may be form'd, and the Crime punish'd, even after the Death of the Criminal.

6. It shall also be Lawful on Account of this Crime of High-Treason towards the said Princes Electors to put upon the Wrack the Servants of a Master so accus'd.

7. We do further ordain by this Imperial Edict, and it is our Will that Informations may begin to be taken against him after the Death of the Criminal, to the end that if the Crime be made out, his Memory may be tainted, and his Goods forfeited. For from the Time that any one has laid the Design of committing a detestable Crime, he is in some Measure guilty, and suffers Trouble in his Soul.

8. And therefore it is our Will that from the Time any one shall be prov'd to have been guilty of such Offence, he shall not be capable of selling or alienating, nor of giving his Slaves their Freedom, nor of receiving what is due to him.

9. So We likewise ordain that for this reason the Criminal's Servants be put upon the Wrack, that is, for the Crime of detestable Conspiring against the Princes Electors, Spiritual or Temporal.

10. And if any of those Criminals shall happen to die whilst his Process is forming, it is our Will that in regard it is still uncertain who shall be his Heir, his Goods shall be deposited in the Court.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXV.

Of preserving the Electors Principalities.

1. **I**F it be requisite that all Principalities be preserv'd entire, that Justice may be well-grounded, and that Good and Loyal Subjects may enjoy perfect Tranquility and a profound Peace, it must be beyond all Comparifon much more Just, that the Great Principalities, Dominions, Honours and Rights of the Princes Electors remain always entire; for there most Precaution is to be us'd where the Danger is most to be apprehended; for fear lest the principal Pillars failing, all the Structure fall to Ruin.

1. It is therefore our Will, and by this Imperial, Perpetual Edict we do ordain, that for the future, and for ever, the Great and Magnificent Principalities, such as the Kingdom of *Bohemia*, the County Palatine of the *Rhine*, the Dutchy of *Saxony*, and the Marquifate of *Brandenburg*, their Lands, Jurifdictions, Homages and Vassalages, with their Appurtenances and Dependances, shall not be parted, divided, or difmembred, in any manner whatsoever, but that they remain for ever united and preserv'd entire.

2. That the eldest Son do fucceed in them, and that all the Dominions and all the Right belong to him alone; unless he be *Non Compos*, or have some other great and notable Failing, which absolutely renders him incapable of governing, in which Cafe his Succelfion being cut off, it is our Will that the Second Son, if there be one in the fame Line, be called to it, if not, the eldest of the Fathers, Brothers or Kindred, being a Lay-man, who shall appear to be the nearest in the direct Male Line. Who shall nevertheless be oblig'd to give continual Testimonies of his Bounty and Liberality towards his other Brothers and Sisters, contributing towards their Subfiftance according to the Grace he has receiv'd of God and according to his own Good-will, and the Ability of his Estate; exprefly forbidding him any parting, dividing, or difmembring of the Prin-

Principalities, and their Appurtenances and Dependances in any Sort whatsoever.

CHAP. XXVI.

Of the Imperial Court, and its Sitting.

1. **O**N the Day when the Emperor or King of the Romans will keep a Solemn Court, the Princes Electors, both Spiritual and Temporal, shall repair near about the same Hour to the Imperial or Royal Place of Abode, where the Emperor or King in his Imperial Robes shall Mount a Horseback, with all the Princes Electors, who shall attend him to the Place prepar'd for the sitting, every one in Order and Manner above prescrib'd, and insert'd in the Ordinance for regulating the Said Princes Electors going in Procession.
2. The Great Chancellor, in whose great Chancellorship the Imperial Court shall be held, shall also carry all the Imperial or Royal Seals at the end of a Silver Staff.
3. But the Temporal Princes Electors shall carry the Sword, the Scepter and the Globe, as has been said above.
4. Some other inferior Princes appointed by the Emperor, and at his Choice, shall carry immediately before the Archbishop of Treves, as he Walks in his Place, first the Crown of Aix la Chapelle, and secondly that of Milan, which shall only be done before the Emperor adorn'd with the Imperial Crown.
5. The Empress also, or the Queen of the Romans, habited in their Robes, shall follow after the Emperor or the King of the Romans, and also behind the King of Bohemia, who immediately follows next after the Emperor, but at a convenient Distance, and attended by her Principal Officers, and by her Ladies of Honour, and then to the Place of Sitting.

C H A P. XXVII.

Of the Functions or Employments of the Princes Electors upon such Occasions when the Emperors or Kings of the Romans keep their Solemn Court.

WE do ordain, that as often as the Emperor or the King of the Romans shall think fit to hold his Solemn Court, where the Princes Electors shall be oblig'd to perform the Functions of their Employments, the following Order be therein observ'd.

1. In the first place, the Emperor or the King of the Romans being seated in his Royal Chair, or on the Imperial Throne, the Duke of Saxony shall do the Duty of his Employment in the following Manner. There shall be plac'd before the House of the Imperial or Royal Sitting a Heap of Oats so high that it may reach up to the Breast-plate, or to the Saddle-skirts of the Horse the Duke rides on, and the Duke holding in his Hands a Silver Staff, and a Silver Measure, which together shall weigh Twelve Marks of Silver, as he sits a Horse-back shall fill the Measure with Oats, and shall give it to the first Groom he meets: Then Sticking the Silver Staff in the Oats he shall withdraw, and his Vice-marshal, viz. Pappenheim, drawing near, or in his Absence the Marshal of the Court, shall give leave to pillage the Oats.

2. When the Emperor or King of the Romans is set down to Table, the Spiritual Princes Electors, that is, the Archbishops, standing before the Table with other Prelates, shall say Grace according to the Order above by us prescrib'd. When Grace is said, the same Archbishops, if if they are all present, or else Two, or One of them, shall take the Imperial or Royal Seals from the Hands of the Chancellor of the Court, and the Archbishop, in whose Great Chancellorship the Court shall be kept, walking be-

twixt the Two other Archbishops, both of them with him holding the Silver Staff, at which the Seals shall hang, and in this manner they shall all Three carry them, and respectfully lay them on the Table before the Emperor or King. But the Emperor or the King shall immediately give them back to them; and he in whose Great Chancellorship the Ceremonies are perform'd, as has been said before, shall hang the Great Seal about his Neck, and shall wear it in that manner during the Dinner-time, and after, till he return a Horseback from the Palace to his House. But the Staff we have spoken of is to be of Silver, of the Weight of Twelve Marks, and the Three Archbishops are each of them to pay One Third of the Price of the Silver, and of the Fashion. The Staff and the Seals shall remain with the Chancellor of the Court to dispose of as he pleases; and therefore that Archbishop, whose Turn it has been to wear the Great Seal about his Neck from the Palace to his Apartment, as has been said, as soon as he comes home shall send back the said Seal on the same Horse by one of his Retinue to the Chancellor of the Court, and the Archbishop, as becomes his Dignity; and the Friendship he shall have with the Chancellor of the Court shall be also oblig'd to give him the Horse.

Next, the Marquiss of *Brandenburg* shall come a Horseback, bringing in his Hands a Silver Basin and Ewer of Twelve Marks Weight, with Water and a Rich Towel: Then alighting, he shall give Water to the Emperor, or the King of the *Romans* to wash.

4. The Count *Palatine* of the *Rhine* shall in like manner come a Horseback, bringing Four Silver Plates full of Meat, each Plate weighing Three Marks, and alighting, shall put the Plates on the Table before the Emperor or King of the *Romans*.

5. After them shall come the King of *Bahemia*, Great Cup-bearer, a Horseback also, and holding in his Hand a Silver Cup or Goblet of Twelve Marks Weight, cover'd, and full of Wine and Water, and alighting, shall give the Emperor or King of the *Romans* to drink.

6. We do also ordain, that pursuant to what has been hitherto practis'd when the Temporal Electoral Princes have

perform'd the Duty of their Employments, the Vice-chamberlain, *Falkenstein* shall have the Marquis of *Brandenburg's* Horse, Basin and Ewer; the Master-Cook of *Noremburg* the Count *Palatine* of the *Rhine's* Horse and Plates; the Deputy Cup-bearer of *Limburg* the King of *Behemia's* Horse, and Cup, or Goblet; and the Vice-marshal *Papenheim* the Duke of *Saxony's* Horse, Staff and Measure. Always supposing this to be in Case these Officers be personally present at the Imperial or Royal Court; and there perform the Functions of their Employments; otherwise if they are all absent, or any one of them, then the Officers in ordinary belonging to the Emperor or the King of the *Romans* shall serve in the Places of the absent; and as they perform the Functions, so shall they enjoy the Perquisites.

C H A P. XXVIII.

Of the Imperial and Electoral Tables.

1. **T**HE Imperial or Regal Table is to be so order'd that it be Six Foot higher than the other Tables in the Hall; and on the Solemn Days no Body shall sit at it but the Emperor or the King of *Romans*.

2. In like manner the Empresses or the Queen's Table shall be plac'd by the Side, and Three Foot lower than the Emperor or King of the *Romans*, but still Three Foot higher than those of the Electors. As for Princes Electors Tables they shall be all of an equal height.

3. Seven Tables shall be set up for the Seven Princes Electors below the Imperial Table; viz. Two on the Right, and Two on the Left, and the Seventh opposite to the Emperor or King of the *Romans*, in the same Order as has been set down in the Chapter of the Sitting and Rank of the Princes Electors; so that no Person of any Quality or Condition soever may be betwixt any Two of their Tables, or sit down with them.

4. It shall not be lawful for any of the aforesaid Temporal Princes Electors, who has perform'd the Duty of his Employment, to go sit down at the Table provided for him, till all the other Electors his Collegues have also done their Functions. But as soon as any one or more of them has or have done his or their Duty, he or they shall draw near to their Tables, and stand till all the others have fulfill'd the Functions of their Places, and then shall all sit down to their own Tables at the same Time.

5. Forasmuch as it appears to us by most Authentick Relations, and by such Ancient Traditions, that there is no Memorial to the contrary, that it has in all Ages been happily observ'd, that the Election of the King of the Romans to be future Emperor is to be made in the Town of *Frankfort*, and the Coronation at *Aix la Chapelle*, and that the Emperor Elect is to hold his first Court at *Nuremberg*, it is therefore our Will for several Reasons that the same Custom be observ'd for the Time to come, unless there be some lawful Impediment.

6. Whensoever any Spiritual or Temporal Prince Elector, who has been summon'd to the Imperial Court, cannot, for some lawful Reason, appear there in Person, and shall send thither an Embassador or Deputy, that Embassador, of what Quality soever he be, tho' by Virtue of the Commission he is to be admitted to the Place of him whom he represents, yet shall he not sit down at the Table design'd for him that sends him.

To conclude, when all the Ceremonies of this Imperial Court are over, all the Scaffolding or Wooden Structure erected for the Sitting, and for the Emperors and King of the Romans Tables, and for those of the Princes Electors assembled for these Solemn Ceremonies, or for giving the Investiture of Fiefs, shall belong to the Master of the Household.

and it shall be the Emperors and Kings of the Romans who shall divide the said Sum of 20 Marks and a Quarter of Silver in the following Manner.

he shall take Ten Marks for himself; he shall give the like Sum to the Emperors or King of the Romans Chancellor; Three Marks to the Secretaries, Clerks, and Dist-
 G. C. H. A. P.

C H A P. XXIX.

Of the Officers Dues when Princes do Homage to the Emperor or to the King of the Romans for their Fiefs.

1. **W**E do by this present Imperial Edict ordain, that when the Princes Electors, Spiritual or Temporal, shall receive their Fiefs, or Sovereign Rights, at the Hands of the Emperor, or of the King of the Romans, they shall not be oblig'd to pay or to give any thing to any Body whatsoever: For the Money paid on that Pretence being to the Officers, and the Princes Electors having a Superiority over all Offices of the Imperial Court, and having their own Substitutes in those Sorts of Offices, settled and paid for that Purpose by the Emperor, it would be absurd that those Officers substituted should demand any Money or Presents of their Superiours; unless the said Princes Electors will give any thing of their own free Will and Liberality.

2. But the other Princes of the Empire, as well Spiritual as Temporal, when they receive their Fiefs, as has been said above, from the Emperor, or the King of the Romans, shall give to the Officers of the Imperial or Royal Court, each of them 63 Marks and a Quarter of Silver, unless any one of them can make out his being exempt, and demonstrate that he is by Imperial or Royal Privilege dispens'd with for paying the said Sum, and all other Dues us'd to be paid at receiving the Investiture; and it shall be the Emperor's or the King of the Roman's Steward of the Household, who shall divide the said Sum of 63 Marks and a Quarter of Silver in the following Manner.

In the first place he shall take Ten Marks for himself; he shall give the like Sum to the Emperor's or King of the Roman's Chancellor; Three Marks to the Secretaries, Clerks, and Dictators; and a Quarter to him that Seals for the Wax and

Parchment; and the Chancellor and Secretaries shall not be oblig'd for this to give any other thing but a Certificate of the Fief receiv'd, or Plain Letters of Investiture. In like manner the Steward of the Household shall give the said Sum of Ten Marks to the Cup-bearer of *Limburg*, Ten to the Master-Cook of *Nortemburg*, Ten to the Deputy-Marshal of *Papenheim*, and Ten to the Vice-chamberlain of *Falkenstein*; provided they appear in Person at these Investitures, and there do the Duty of their Employments; otherwise, and in Case of their absence, the Officers of the Emperor's or the King of the *Roman's* Courts, who do the Duty of the absent Persons, and who have had the Trouble, shall also receive the Profit and Advantage.

3. But when the Prince mounted on a Horse, or any other Beast, shall have receiv'd the Investiture of his Fiefs from the Emperor or the King of the *Romans*, whatsoever Beast it is it shall belong to the Great Marshal, that is, to the Duke of *Saxony*, if present, if not to his Deputy-Marshal of *Papenheim*, and in his Absence to the Marshal of the Emperor's Court.

C H A P. XXX.

Of Teaching the Princes Electors several Languages.

1 **F**Orasmuch as the Majesty of the Sacred *Roman* Empire is to give Laws to, and to command several People of sundry Nations, Manners, Customs, and of different Languages, it is convenient, and the Wiser Persons think it so, that the Electors, who are the Pillars and the Buttresses of the Empire be taught and understand several Languages; for being oblig'd to assist the Emperor in his most Important Affairs, it is requisite that they understand several Persons, and that they reciprocally be understood by many.

2. We do therefore ordain, that the Sons, or Heirs and Successors of the Illustrious Princes Electors, viz. of the King of Bohemia, the Count Palatine of the Rhine, the Duke of Saxony, and the Marquiss of Brandenburg, who likely know the German Language, because they must have learnt it from their Infancy, when they come to Seven Years of Age be instructed in the Latin, Italian, and Schavonian Tongues, so that, when they come to Fourteen Years of Age, they may be knowing in them, according to the Talent God shall have given them, which we do not only think useful, but necessary, because the use of those Languages is very frequent in the Empire for the Dispatch of the most Important Affairs.

3. However, the particular manner of so instructing them we leave to the Choice of the Parents, so that it shall be at their Will to send their Sons, or the Kinsmen they shall think likely to succeed them in the Electorate, to such Places where they may conveniently learn those Languages, or else to appoint them in their own Houses Masters, and Young Companions, by whose Instruction and Conversation they may be taught those Languages.

XXXI. CHAP.

Of Teaching the Princes Electors several Lan-

guages.

As the Majesty of the Sacred Roman Empire is to give Laws to, and to command several People of many Nations, Manners, Customs, and of different Languages, it is convenient that the Princes Electors, who are the Pillars and the Pillars of the Empire, should be able to understand several Languages, and being obliged to assist the Emperor in his most Important Affairs, it is requisite that they understand several Nations, and that they be understood by many.

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